# Year in Review

2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT





### Dear Family and Friends,

The 2016-2017 year was another year of growth at MLC. I'm thrilled to share this snapshot of our work, highlighting growth in our students, programs, and staff. None of these accomplishments would be possible without our amazing donors, partners, and families. Thank you for your continued support and stay tuned for more great news in the coming year. It's going to be amazing!

Endmostad



Sincerely.

Amy Gudmestad
Executive Director

## **Program Description**

Minnesota Life College serves adults with autism spectrum disorders and other learning differences on our campus in Richfield, MN. Our students come from across the country and many of them choose to stay and make the Richfield area their permanent home as they live independently with the skills they learned at MLC. Our three primary programs are:

The Undergraduate Program (UG), established in 1996, teaches the core skills that we believe are essential to live independently within a community. We provide residential-based instruction and support on independent living skills, employment skills and social skills, using a holistic, strength-based model of education. Our Undergraduate Program currently has 37 students, including our largest freshman class to date of 18 individuals.

After completing UG, students can opt to join the Community Living Program (CLP). Graduates who are living independently in their own apartment, using public transportation and are often employed in competitive community employment, use the CLP for access to a community of supportive relationships, positive choices and healthy activities within the Twin Cities. Since its inception in 2005, this program has had a dramatic increase in participants enrolled. The CLP program is currently serving 62 adults and we anticipate continued growth into the future.

The Summer Internship Program (SIP) offers a residential 3 week summer session to high school and transition age individuals with learning differences and autism spectrum disorders. SIP students work on skills similar to UG, but in a limited time frame. We provide an apartment living experience that includes skill building in the areas of cooking, cleaning, budgeting and transportation. We also provide training internships to our participants via our corporate partnerships in the community.

**OUR MISSION** 

To transform the lives of individual and families affected by autism spectrum and learning

differences.



RETREATS for building social skills in a new setting



100% of the Class of 2017 employed at graduation

Introduced new POD CURRICULUM focusing on skills in

## 5 KEY AREAS

to foster increased student engagement and learning, and instructor effectiveness:

Social-Emotional Learning

**Vocational Readiness** 

**Apartment Living** 

**Healthy Living** 





Team Building and Community

MEMBERS
Highest
enrollment
in program
history



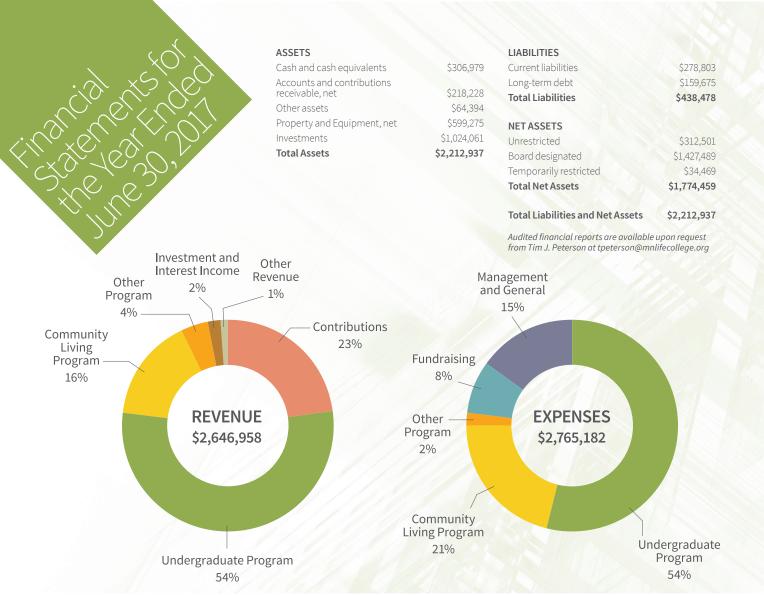
# Delivered over 800 HOURS of support service through a new initiative aimed at working with Roommates, Individuals, and Small Groups

This year we offered an average A

88 ACTIVITIES PER MONTH

O OF MEMBERS participating in two or more each month

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